

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 14, 15 and 20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-11 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected Group. Rejoinder of claims 1-11 is respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, Figs. 18a-22 are replaced pursuant to the attached drawing sheets, claims 18, 19 and 21 are cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, and claim 12 is amended to recite features in cancelled claims 18, 19 and 21. No new matter is added by any of these amendments.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claim 21 contains allowable subject matter. As such, Applicants amend claim 12 to recite the features of claim 21 and intervening claims.

Reconsideration based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. The Drawings Satisfy All Formal Requirements

The November 14, 2002 Office Action objected to the drawings based on informalities. Figures 18a-22 were corrected in the May 13, 2003 Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections, and were approved in the June 18, 2003 Final Office Action. Figures 18a-22 are replaced pursuant to the attached drawing sheets and include the approved changes in the May 13, 2003 corrected drawings.

II. The Claims Satisfy All Formal Requirements

The Office Action objects to claims 18 and 21 based on informalities. Claims 18 and 21 have been cancelled, and claim 12 has been amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the claim objection is respectfully requested.

III. Claims 12, 14, 15 and 20 Define Over the Applied References

The Office Action rejects claims 12, 14 and 18-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0034645 to Dronzek, Jr. *et al.* (hereinafter "Dronzek") in view of U.S. Patent 3,966,534 to Oddy; and claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Dronzek in view

of Oddy and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,371,187 to Nowaczyk. These rejections are moot. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:GWT/gwt

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Replacement Drawing Sheets Figs. 18a-22

Date: November 1, 2004

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings replace the original sheets including Figs. 18a-22 and correspond to the corrected mark-up drawings submitted with the May 13, 2003 Request for Approval of Drawing Corrections.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets: Figs. 18a-22